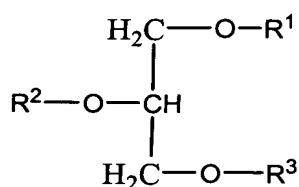


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A method of preventing or treating skin damage, comprising orally administering a composition containing diacylglyceryl ether represented by the formula (I):



wherein  $\text{R}^1$  denotes  $\text{C}_{12-24}$  aliphatic hydrocarbon group having a degree of unsaturation of between 0 and 2;  $\text{R}^2$  denotes  $\text{C}_{12-24}$  acyl group having a degree of unsaturation of between 0 and 6; and  $\text{R}^3$  denotes  $\text{C}_{12-24}$  acyl group having a degree of unsaturation of between 0 and 6.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of preventing or treating skin damage of claim 1 5, wherein the skin damage is wrinkle formation and/or sagging formation, the formation of skin cancer, or the formation of pigmented spots and/or freckles.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method of preventing or treating skin damage of claim 1 5, wherein the diacylglyceryl ether is orally administered at a dosage of between 10 mg and 5000 mg per day.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of preventing or treating skin damage of claim 1 5, wherein the composition is provided as processed food.

Claim 9 (New): The method of preventing or treating skin damage of claim 5, wherein the composition is a diacylglycerol ether-containing composition derived from shark liver oil.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 6-8 are currently amended.

Claim 9 is added.

Claims 6-8 are supported by claims 6-8, as previously presented.

Claim 9 is supported by Example 1 of present specification at pages 8-11.

No new matter is believed to have been added.

Upon entry of the amendment, claims 5-9 will be active.